

W·I·N·G·S·P·A·N

VOLUME 3 NO. 2

SEPTEMBER 1994

Karen Steenhof, Editor

Vicki Hughes, Editorial Assistant

IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE

Letters to the Editor	
More on Shrikes and Ravens	2
Obituary	
Farewell to "Butch"	3
Organization Profiles	
The National Birds of Prey Centre	4
The Vulture Study Group	5
New RRF Committee Structure	6
RRF Award Winner	
Suanne Unger	7
Upcoming Meetings	8-9
Conservation News	
Madagascar Serpent-Eagles Rediscovered	10
Bald Eagles to be Reclassified	10
Snake River Birds of Prey Area Dedicated	10
Forest Planning and Spotted Owls	11
Update on Hawkwatch International	12
Announcements	13-15

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

This fifth issue of The Wingspan marks the second anniversary of the Raptor Research Foundation's newsletter. During the past 2 years, we have tried to present timely information to RRF members and Wingspan subscribers, and the feedback that we have received from our readers indicates that we have been successful. The time has come, however, to turn over the

reins to a new editor. If you would be willing to take over editorial responsibilities in 1995 or if you know someone who might be, please contact me or any other member of the RRF Board of Directors. Also please let us know what you think of The Wingspan and what its future should be.



U.S.
NATIONAL
BIOLOGICAL
SURVEY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ARE SHRIKES AND RAVENS RAPTORS?

■ A FINAL OPINION? ■

Dear Editor,

I read in the last issue of THE WINGSPAN the discussion about accepting or not Ravens, as well as other birds with similar raptorial habits, as raptors or, in a more European way, as birds of prey. I believe that the controversy was already solved very clearly by Leslie Brown in the early pages of his clever book "British Birds of Prey", Collins, London 1976, where he points out that only Falconiformes (and Strigiformes, I add) can be considered true raptors because of their great degree of specialization in catching prey.

Sincerely,
Davide Csermely
UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI PARMA
Viale delle Scienze
43100 Parma (ITALIA)

Note: if you have an opinion you wish to share or any other raptor-related issue, please send it to *The Wingspan* editor, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705.

THE RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.
(FOUNDED 1966)

PRESIDENT: Michael W. Collopy
VICE-PRESIDENT: David M. Bird

SECRETARY: Betsy Hancock
TREASURER: Jim Fitzpatrick

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EASTERN DIRECTOR: Brian Millsap
CENTRAL DIRECTOR: Thomas Nicholls
CANADIAN DIRECTOR: Paul C. James
MOUNTAIN & PACIFIC DIRECTOR: Karen Steenhof

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #1: Jim Bednarz
DIRECTOR AT LARGE #2: Robert E. Kenward
DIRECTOR AT LARGE #3: Keith L. Bildstein
DIRECTOR AT LARGE #4: Josef Schmutz
DIRECTOR AT LARGE #5: Paul F. Steblein
DIRECTOR AT LARGE #6: Katherine McKeever

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR #1: Jemima Parry-Jones
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR #2: Isabel Bellocq

The Wingspan is distributed twice a year to all RRF members. It is also available to non-members for a subscription rate of \$10 per year. *The Journal of Raptor Research* (ISSN 0892-1016) is published quarterly and available to individuals for \$24.00 per year and to libraries and institutions for \$30.00 per year from *The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc.*, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033, U.S.A. Add \$3 for destinations outside of the continental United States.

Persons interested in predatory birds are invited to join The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. Send requests for information concerning membership, subscriptions, special publications, or change of address to *Jim Fitzpatrick, Treasurer*, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033, U.S.A.

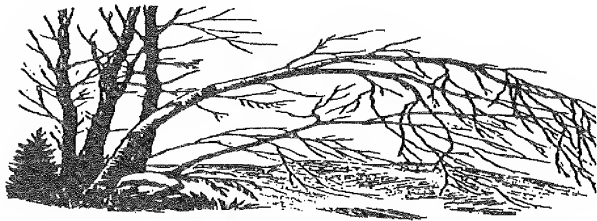
OBITUARY

IN MEMORIAM

DR. RICHARD R. OLENDORFF

1943-1994

The raptor research community lost one of its leading and most beloved members recently. On 24 February 1994, Dr. Richard R. Olendorff died of complications from diabetes at the age of 50. Of course, he was known to all of us as "Butch."



Butch was a charter member of the Raptor Research Foundation. He served as RRF's editor from 1971 to 1976, its secretary from 1975 to 1976, and its president from 1977 to 1981. He also served on RRF's Board of Directors from 1975 to 1977, and from 1980 to 1982. In 1991, RRF honored Butch with its most prestigious award, the President's Award. RRF is also dedicating the 1994 Annual Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona to Butch's memory.

Butch received his Bachelor of Science Degree in zoology at the University of Washington in 1967, and completed his doctorate at Colorado State University in 1971. Between 1971 and 1974, he was a Post-doctoral Fellow and Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. In 1974, he joined the U.S. Bureau of Land Management as the bureau-wide Endangered Species Liaison Officer in Washington D.C. From 1977 to 1989, Butch served as the Endangered Species Coordinator in the Bureau's California State Office in Sacramento. In 1989, Butch moved to Boise, Idaho to establish the Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center, BLM's first cooperative research unit. In October 1993, RRTAC

was transferred to the National Biological Survey, a new federal agency dedicated to biological research on the nation's public lands.

It may be for his boundless energy and lifetime commitment to raptor conservation that Butch will be most remembered. In addition to his regular duties with BLM, Butch found time to write a number of state-of-the-art papers concerning raptors, and during his professional life produced over 35 publications and scientific papers. During the 1980's, he developed a computerized bibliography on raptor management with over 10,000 references. In 1985, he conceived of and was instrumental in organizing the 10-day World Raptor Meetings in Sacramento, California, the largest such event in the history of the raptor profession. Butch was determined to continue his work to the end. He was at his desk until a few days before his final trip to the hospital, working on a revision of his well-known paper, *Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines*. A few months before his death, he published his last major work, an exhaustive review of the ferruginous hawk literature.

All who knew him will also remember Butch for his kindness, sense of humor, and deep personal integrity. Butch was scrupulously fair, and examined all sides of every issue. He was universally respected for the courtesy he showed everyone regardless of which side of the fence they were on. He had the rare ability to identify with the values of others without passing judgement. In a very real sense, Butch set the standards of personal and professional behavior that guided the raptor profession through its early years. He will be sorely missed.

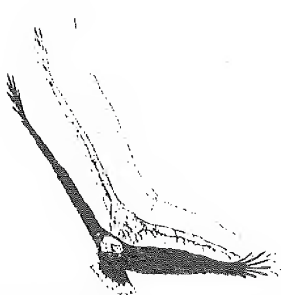
- Bob Lehman

ORGANIZATION

THE NATIONAL BIRDS OF PREY CENTRE

Newent, Gloucestershire, England

-- Jemima Parry-Jones



The National Birds of Prey Centre

The National Birds of Prey Centre is one of the largest collections of raptors in the world. Housing approximately 240 birds of 65 species, it offers the visiting public an enormous variety of live specimens, including vultures, falcons, owls, hawks, eagles, and buzzards.

Now run by Jemima Parry-Jones, NBPC has managed not only to educate large numbers of visitors to a greater understanding of raptors, but also to breed 44 different species. The main aims are conservation through education, captive breeding, and research.

Captive breeding and research go hand in hand. The NBPC philosophy is not

so much to breed rare species for release projects, but to breed small numbers of young *consistently* from many different species.

This strategy stimulates the interest of the general public, upon whose funds the centre depends, and it also makes it possible to learn more about captive breeding procedures. By breeding many species the centre is able to help and advise on specific (and viable) breeding and release schemes, using the knowledge gained from a particular species or a closely related one. The NBPC also assists outside projects with information such as blood samples, measurements, weights, and behavior.

Education is tackled in several different ways. All visitors to NBPC can watch one or more of four daily flying demonstrations with an accompanying lecture. All school parties get a guided tour, and the centre has information points, school packs, and a guide book available.

The centre also provides short-term work experience for students; veterinary students who need hands-on knowledge; small animal management students; zoo keepers; school children looking at career possibilities. The centre has also hosted persons from other breeding and release programs and has provided on-site training dealing with captive birds, incubation, and rearing.

To add to this work the NBPC will offer a course leading to a Diploma from the University of Kent, beginning in 1995.

The course is part time; the first year comprises one 2-week block of teaching in April and a 5-day block in October. The first two blocks cover raptor biology, how raptors work both physically and mentally, and captive aspects - management, breeding, health and, nutrition. The third block covers wild aspects, including breeding ecology, migration, and conservation.

PROFILES

VULTURE STUDY GROUP ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST

In the second year, students undertake a supervised home-based project on any suitable aspect of raptors in which a student may be interested. Success in both parts leads to the award of a University Diploma. Anyone is eligible if a natural interest in raptors is shown.

For those who do not wish to go for Diploma level but would like a chance to learn about these aspects of raptors there are three options for shorter training programs.

The lecturers are well-known international experts from university departments, veterinary practice, government departments, and specialist raptor collections, all of the highest quality. The surroundings are lovely and many wild raptors live close by as well as the captive birds at the Centre. These are well founded and first class courses suitable for anyone interested in improving their knowledge of raptors.

For further information write to
Jemima Parry-Jones. The
National Birds of Prey Centre,
Newent, Glos GL18 1JJ.
United Kingdom. Tel 0531
820286 ■



The Vulture Study Group is an international organization devoted to Acciptrid and Cathartid vulture research, conservation, and education.

Founded in 1973, the group is made up of people from all walks of life who have an interest in vultures. Their conservation philosophy is based on the concept that a group of concerned people can take a group of threatened species under their protection, and assume responsibility for their survival.

The VSG is a working group of the Endangered Wildlife Trust, a non-government conservation action-body particularly concerned with vulnerable and endangered species.

Membership of the Vulture Study Group is open to anyone, annual subscription fees are R30 or \$30 (for all countries outside of southern Africa).



Members receive two issues of *Vulture News*, our newsletter *Gyps Snips*, and are invited to participate in conservation activities.

Vulture News is the journal of the VST. It aims to bring together the latest on research, conservation and all other matters concerning vultures, on a world-wide basis. Contributions from ornithologists, reports, news items, and reviews of recent literature are included. *Vulture News* is published in March and September each year and is circulated to members of the VSG.

For information write:
P.O. Box 72334
Parkview 2122
South Africa
Phone:
(011) 646-8617 ■

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC. -- 1994 COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

The RRF Board of Directors recently voted to modify RRF's committee structure. The new structure coordinates and consolidates the many representatives to other groups into a single Conservation Committee. It also organizes several meeting-related subcommittees under the Conference Committee. It creates a Publications Committee, and combines the Education and Rehabilitation committees.

Conferences Committee (Michael N. Kochert, Chair: 208/384-3484)

- North American Annual Meetings Subcommittee
- European Meetings Subcommittee
- Resolutions Subcommittee
- Public Relations Subcommittee

Awards Committee (Petra Bohall-Wood, Chair: 304/293-2941, x2433)

- Dean Amadon Award
- William C. Andersen Award
- Leslie Brown Memorial Grant
- Tom Cade Award
- Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom Award
- James R. Koplin Travel Award
- Stephen R. Tully Award

Conservation Committee (James D. Fraser, Chair: 703/231-6064)

- Representatives to Ornithological Council
- Representatives to US/Birdlife International
- Representative to Endangered Species Coalition
- Representative to BLM/RRF MOU
- Representatives to Partners-in-Flight
- Miscellaneous *ad hoc* committees created to report on specific issues

Publications Committee (Carl Marti, Chair: 801/626-6172)

- Editor, Journal of Raptor Research
- Editor, The Wingspan
- Editor, The Kettle

Education & Rehabilitation Committee

(Co-Chairs: Nancy Read: 805/734-8232, x58399
Betsy Hancock: 402/489-3802, x6557)

Nomination Committee (Patricia L. Kennedy, Chair: 303/491-6597)

Membership Committee (Richard J. Clark, Chair: 717/846-7788, x405)

SUANNE UNGER

RECIPIENT OF THE 1993 LESLIE BROWN AWARD

Suanne Unger, a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer affiliated with the Mannyelanong Game Reserve in Botswana, received the RRF's 1993 Leslie Brown Award for her educational efforts to protect the Cape Vulture. Suanne, along with her five co-workers, will be producing education materials on the Cape Vulture as well as doing educational outreach programs.

Suanne was born on the 4th of December, 1966 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA. Suanne enjoys the outdoors, particularly hiking, camping, bird-watching, and learning about vegetation. Her interest in the outdoors was initiated in childhood with walks through the woods, cross-country skiing, and various vacations with her family.

She graduated from the University of Wisconsin- Madison in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in education, majoring in Biology. During the summer of 1987, she was an intern at the Environmental Education Center in Isabella, Minnesota. For her student-teaching requirement, she spent six months abroad in New Zealand teaching science and travelling afterwards. Bird-watching in New Zealand was a focus of her travels as she bicycled and hiked around the north and south islands.

Upon returning to the U.S., she accepted a job in Waukegan, Illinois as a high school biology/earth science teacher. During her year of teaching, she became very involved in environmental activities at the school such as organizing an environmental club, making preparations for Earth Week 1990 and beginning a recycling program. With a growing interest in environmental issues, she decided to return to school for further studies.

In 1990, Suanne began graduate school at the University of Montana-Missoula in the Environmental Studies program. While a student, she also taught a biology lab. Her coursework was interdisciplinary in nature and the focus of her professional paper was environmental education in Kenya. She completed the research for her



paper while doing an internship with the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, Kenya in 1991.

Suanne currently works for the Department of Wildlife and National Parks at Mannyelanong Game Reserve, a reserve dedicated to protecting a breeding colony of Cape Vultures. RRF's support will help Suanne to prepare a slide presentation on the Mannyelanong Reserve and the Cape Vulture, which she and her staff are planning to show to all of the schools in Otse and neighboring villages. Suanne's group has also initiated a project, in cooperation with the Vulture Study Group in Botswana, to determine carcass availability in the southeast district of Botswana. They are also working on various educational displays on the Cape Vulture and are planning to produce a video in the near future. She and her staff have been observing disturbances at the vulture's nesting cliff and have been recording the effects of disturbances on the vulture population.

According to Suanne, the entire staff at Mannyelanong are delighted about the RRF Award and say to RRF "Re a leboga thata" (We are very thankful).

1994 RRF ANNUAL MEETING FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA



The 1994 Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation will be held November 2-6 in Flagstaff, Arizona.

The meeting begins on Wednesday, November 2 with an all-day meeting of the RRF Board of Directors. Registration and the art show will start Wednesday evening, and there will be a no-host reception for all attendees on Wednesday evening. General paper sessions and vendor exhibits begin on Thursday, November 3. Thursday also will feature a symposium on the Northern Goshawk and an evening no-host reception. The art show will continue through Friday afternoon. General paper sessions continue on Friday along with a mini-symposium on Mexican Spotted Owls. Field trips will be held Friday afternoon (see below), and the general business meeting also will be on Friday. Posters will be available for viewing on Friday evening and Saturday. A mini-symposium on Swainson's Hawks will be held on Saturday concurrent with general paper sessions. Saturday night's banquet will be an informal barbecue (plan on casual attire) followed by dancing to music provided by a DJ. Sunday will feature a 1/2 day workshop on the use of the RANGES software package.

Three field trips will be offered. A trip to the Grand Canyon will include discussions about the reintroduction of the California Condor and a visit to a migration monitoring site. A trip to the Coconino National Forest will highlight strategies to manage Mexican Spotted Owls and Northern Goshawks in the southwest. The cultural history of northern Arizona will be the focus of a trip to Wupatki and Walnut Canyon National Monuments and the Museum of Northern Arizona. There will be no paper sessions on the afternoon of the field trips.

Accommodations have been arranged at the Little America Hotel in Flagstaff. Room rates will be \$65 per night plus tax. Flagstaff is located in northern Arizona; the drive from Phoenix to Flagstaff is approximately 3 hours. The local committee will provide a 2-page interpretive guide for drivers/passengers upon request. Flagstaff is served by a limited number of prop planes operated by America West's Mesa Airlines Shuttle Service. Bus service is also available from the Phoenix airport terminal to Flagstaff. For travel information or hotel reservations, call Campus Travel Connection (1-800-82-TRAVEL). Campus Travel Connection also will provide roommate and car matching services upon request.

Flagstaff is located at 7000 ft. Be prepared for cool autumn temperatures and the possibility of rain and/or light snow. For more information about the meeting contact Patricia Hall, Local Committee Chairperson, 436 E. David Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (602-774-0041).

The 1995 RRF annual meeting will be in Duluth, Minnesota November 1-4. RRF is now soliciting offers to host the 1996 and 1997 North American meeting, especially from Canada, Mexico, or Central America. Interested parties should contact: *Mike Kochert, NBS RRTAC, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705. (208) 384-3484 or FAX (208) 384-3493.*



1995 EUROPEAN RRF MEETING BADAJOZ, SPAIN

The second European meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation will be held 17-22 April 1995 in Badajoz, Extremadura, Spain as part of an international conference focusing on holarctic raptors. The main organizers are the Asociacion para la Defensa de la Naturaleza y los Recursos de Extremadura (ADENEX) and the World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls. Themes to be covered include migration, reproductive biology, biology and conservation of owls, environmental contamination, habitat analyses and census techniques, legislation, endangered species recovery programs, public education, and socioeconomic aspects. All presentations will be given in English or Spanish, with simultaneous translations.

Extremadura is particularly rich in variety and number of European raptors, and there will be plenty of opportunity to see both raptors and the Spanish countryside. Extremadura is an important refuge for rare and endangered raptor species. Of 51 species occurring in Europe, 35 can be observed in Extremadura.

Deadline for receipt of abstracts is 15 February 1995. For more information on the conference venue, registration, and abstract submissions, etc., please contact: *R.D. Chancellor, the Hon. Secretary of WWGBP, 15b Bolton Gardens, London SW5 0AL, England. FAX 44-71-370-18-96.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS



1994

SEPTEMBER 20 - 25

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FIRST ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Contact: *The Wildlife Society*
(301-897-9770)

SEPTEMBER 23 - 25

ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS AND
THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD
CLUBS. *Special Topic: Issues and Actions in
Owl Conservation and Biology.*

Williams Lake Resort

Rosendale, New York

Contact: *Kelly Ertlwein, Science Division,
Sullivan County Community College,
Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759*

OCTOBER 22 - 26

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN WILDLIFE
Seattle - Bellevue, Washington.

Contact: *Lowell Adams (301-596-3311).*

NOVEMBER 3 - 6

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION MEETING
Flagstaff, Arizona

Contact: *Patricia A. Hall, Local Chairperson,
436 E. David Dr.,
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Tel: (602-774-0041).*

1995

APRIL 17 - 22

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HOLARCTIC
BIRDS OF PREY.

Badajoz, Spain

Contact: *R.D. Chancellor
15b Bolton Gardens
London SW5 0AL, ENGLAND
FAX: (44-71-370-18-96)*

MAY 4 - 7

"WINGS ACROSS THE BORDERS"
HAWK MIGRATION ASSOCIATION OF NORTH
AMERICA'S CONFERENCE VII.

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Contact: *Robert C. Petit, Monroe County
Community College, 1555 S. Raisinville Road,
Monroe, MI 48161
Tel: (313-242-7300) FAX: (313-242-9711)*

JUNE 7 - 11

9TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

Fort Collins, Colorado

Contact: *Richard L. Knight, Dept. of Fishery
and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State Univ.,
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523*

CONSERVATION NEWS

Madagascar Serpent-Eagles Rediscovered

In April 1994, The Peregrine Fund reported the first capture and release of a Madagascar Serpent-eagle (*Eutriorchis astur*) in 63 years. Until this event, the Madagascar Serpent-eagle had rarely been seen in over 60 years and had never been photographed. The last specimen had been collected in 1930. Peregrine Fund Biologists Russell Thorstrom, Victor Baba, and Barthelemy Damary reported sightings of the rare bird late in 1993, and in January 1994, Malagasy field biologists trained by The Peregrine Fund trapped, photographed, and released a live serpent eagle. The eagle's forest habitat is currently threatened by slash and burn agricultural practices. Peregrine Fund biologists will be studying the serpent-eagle and will be cooperating with other agencies to protect 745,000 acres of forest on the island of Madagascar.

Bald Eagles To Be Reclassified

On July 12, 1994, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the *Federal Register* regarding the Reclassification of the Bald Eagle.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to reclassify the bald eagle from endangered to threatened in the lower 48 States except the southwestern population in Arizona, New Mexico, California, within 10 miles of the Colorado River or the river's mainstem reservoirs, and those portions of Texas and Oklahoma west of the 100th meridian. The bald eagle would remain threatened in the five States where it is currently listed as threatened (Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan), and be listed as endangered in Mexico under this proposal. The special rule for threatened bald eagles would be revised.

This action would not alter those conservation measures already in force to protect the species and its habitats, nor would it change consultation or taking provisions under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to *Mr. Robert Adair, Chief, Division of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55511-4056*, by October 11, 1994.

For further information or copies of the *Federal Register* Notice contact: *Jody Gustitus Millar, Bald Eagle Recovery Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4469-48th Avenue Court, Rock Island, Illinois 61201 (309-793-5800; FAX: 309-793-5804)*.

Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Dedicated

On May 21, 1994, the Snake River Birds of Prey Area was dedicated as the Bureau of Land Management's eighth National Conservation Area. The Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area was created when President Clinton signed a bill in August 1993 that provides permanent protection to 482,640 acres of raptor nesting and foraging habitat. The legislation creating the area recognizes the significance of the public lands that provide habitat for more than 800 pairs of nesting falcons, eagles, hawks, and owls. It also provides for continued use of the area for military and livestock grazing. The BLM has been directed to determine the compatibility of both of these activities with raptors in a revised management plan to be finalized in the late 1990's.

Forest Planning and Northern Spotted Owls

Edward E. Starkey

National Biological Survey

Cooperative Park Studies Unit

College of Forestry

Oregon State University

Corvallis, OR 97331

For nearly 20 years, the Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) has been at the center of controversy concerning management of federal forests in the Pacific Northwest. These owls occupy late-successional forests, upon which much of the timber industry of the region has depended for wood harvest.

Because individual agencies were unable to develop an adequate conservation strategy for the spotted owl, the *Interagency Scientific Committee to Address the Conservation of the Northern Spotted Owl* (commonly referred to as the ISC) was established in 1989. This committee was chaired by Jack Ward Thomas and was charged with developing a scientifically credible conservation strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl. Their report was completed in May, 1990 and provided the groundwork for all subsequent spotted owl conservation planning efforts. The strategy basically consisted of late-successional reserves embedded in a matrix of managed forests which would provide connectivity. Owl populations within individual reserves would be part of a regional metapopulation.

Shortly after the ISC completed their report, the Northern Spotted Owl was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Since the ISC report was never intended to be a recovery plan, as required by ESA, a new team was formed in late 1991 to prepare a recovery plan. This team depended heavily on the earlier work of the ISC but further refined the strategy, including some recommendations for management of non-federal lands. Under

the plan, 7.6 million acres of federal lands would be included in 192 designated conservation areas, ultimately providing habitat for about 2300 pairs of owls.

The final draft recovery plan was completed in December, 1992 but the Bush Administration chose not to approve it as a final plan. Thus, the issue remained unresolved for the Clinton Administration. On April 2, 1993 President Clinton came to Portland, Oregon and held a conference with major forestry stakeholders. He subsequently instructed federal agencies to establish the *Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team* (FEMAT) to identify a range of alternatives which would meet the requirements of applicable environmental laws and regulations while providing economic and social benefits from federal forests. The final report was completed in July, 1993 and included an assessment of 10 options.

President Clinton chose "Option 9" as the basis for the *President's Forest Plan*. This option includes approximately 7 million acres within late-successional reserves, 2.2 million acres within riparian reserves, and 1.5 million acres of adaptive management areas within which application and testing of new forestry techniques is encouraged. New, more restrictive, standards and guidelines were also developed for timber harvest within the remaining areas of federal lands.

Although this forest plan provides more overall protection for spotted owl habitat, it was not developed as a recovery plan.

While the plan provides a high level of protection across most of the range of the Northern Spotted Owl, problem areas remain. In the eastern Cascade Mts. of Washington, it provides for less habitat than the final draft recovery plan. Also, because the forest plan is limited to federal lands, the important and complex issue of non-federal contributions to recovery are not addressed.

At the present time, yet another team is focusing on spotted owls of the Olympic Peninsula of Washington. This population is currently isolated from other populations in Washington and Oregon, but establishment of connectivity would require provision of at least some breeding habitat on non-federal lands. The team is attempting to determine whether connectivity is required for long-term persistence of Olympic Peninsula owls. Included in the analysis will be modelling designed to evaluate the possible impact of "worst case" scenarios for loss of habitat to fire.

The next step in the resolution of the Northern Spotted Owl issue is unclear. Litigation over the forest plan is certain, and its adequacy as a basis for recovery of the spotted owl may well be challenged. Furthermore, with the 1996 elections approaching, the political environment will become increasingly complex. Ultimately, it seems likely that a new team will be asked to develop a recovery plan to comply with the ESA. Stay tuned as the issue continues to evolve.

■ NEWS FROM HAWKWATCH INTERNATIONAL ■

Steve Hoffman

HawkWatch International, founded in 1986 in New Mexico, makes extensive use of trained volunteers to monitor migratory raptor populations along ridgetop flyways in the Rocky Mountain West. Pioneering count and banding projects are conducted in spring or fall at ten sites in seven western states. Periodic statistical analysis of the data provides critical information concerning long term trends in regional populations.

HawkWatch's fall 1994 field season begins in mid-August, and ends in early November. Projects include the continuation of raptor flyway counts in the Wellsville Mountains, Utah (first established in 1977, continuous data since 1987), the Goshute Mountains, Nevada (conducted annually since 1983), Manzano Mountains, New Mexico (since 1985), Bridger Mountains, Montana (since 1991), and Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona (since 1991).

In addition, first-time counts are also likely in central Washington (at Diamond Head, near Ellensburg on the Wenatchee National Forest), at two sites in Oregon (Bonney Butte on the Mt. Hood National Forest, and Green Ridge on the Deschutes National Forest), and possibly at two sites in northern Utah.

Large scale raptor banding programs are underway again in the Goshutes (where 23,000 raptors have been banded since 1980), and in the Manzanos of New Mexico (where 2,700 hawks have been banded since 1990).

With several recent grants from private foundations, HawkWatch International's high-impact live raptor and slideshow classroom presentation has been given a tremendous boost. HawkWatch anticipates reaching over 30,000 students in Utah, Nevada, and New Mexico classrooms during the 1994-95 school year.

In order to be closer to the geographic center of the field projects, HawkWatch International relocated its headquarters from Albuquerque to Salt Lake City in July, 1993. The organization continues to maintain an office in Albuquerque.

Financial support for this work comes from many sources, including: membership, Adopt-A-Hawk, federal government (Fish & Wildlife Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management), state agencies (New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish, Washington Dept. of Wildlife, Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Arizona Game & Fish), National Audubon Society, and the mining and utility industries. Project reports are available annually for the cost of reproduction and mailing. For more information please contact: *HawkWatch International, P.O. Box 660, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 (801-524-8511).*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION: ALL WINGSPAN SUBSCRIBERS: The Post Office does not forward third class mail. If you have moved and wish to continue receiving *THE WINGSPAN*, please notify Jim Fitzpatrick, RRF Treasurer, of your address change. Jim's address is: 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, Minnesota 55033.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SUMMER STUDENT INTERNSHIPS are available at the Avian Science and Conservation Centre of McGill University, near Montreal. Interns gain experience in care, handling, and propagation of captive birds and become involved in scientific research. Free residence with kitchen facilities will be provided. If interested, submit a letter of recommendation, a resume of experience, and a cover letter indicating your research interests to DR. DAVID BIRD, Director, Avian Science and Conservation Centre of McGill University, 21111 Lakeshore Road, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3V9. Applications must be received by 1 February 1995.

VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIPS IN RAPTOR BIOLOGY are available with the World Bird Sanctuary. Interns will become involved with raptor rehabilitation, captive breeding, captive raptor management, release programs, education programs and other facets of the Sanctuary's work. For more information please contact MAGGIE BOGART, World Bird Sanctuary, P.O. Box 270270, St. Louis, MO 63127 (314-938-6139).

FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED (2), **1 Feb - 30 Jun 1995**, for monitoring Peregrine Falcon territories in northern and southern California. Prior work observing nesting peregrines or other cliff nesting birds is preferred. Person will travel, usually alone, between sites by truck, sometimes by boat on extended multi-week field trips. Activities will include long hours of observation, some hiking, working alone, and also coordinating with agency and military personnel. Person must have own binoculars and camping gear. Spotting scope and truck will be provided. Personal car or truck could be used. Salary starts at \$1200/month and limited per diem is available. Send letter of interest and any references to BRIAN JAMES WALTON, Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 (408-459-3115).

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

RAPTOR CONSERVATION TODAY, edited by B.U. Meyburg and R.D. Chancellor, is now available in the U.S. through **Buteo Books**. The book contains the Proceedings of the IV World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls held in Berlin in October 1992. The list price is \$49.50 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Order by toll free phone (1-800-722-2460) or by mail (*Buteo Books, Rt. 1, Box 242, Shipman, VA 22971 USA*).

BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF SMALL FALCONS, edited by M.K. Nicholls and R. Clarke is now available from the Hawk and Owl Trust in London. The 250-page paperback book contains the proceedings of the 1991 Hawk and Owl Trust Conference, the first international meeting on small falcons. It contains 37 papers on more than 13 small falcons and covers topics such as breeding ecology, evolution and taxonomy, and management. List price is £22.5. Shipping and handling is free in the U.K., £3 to Europe, and £7 overseas. Order from *The Hawk and Owl Trust, The National Centre for Owl Conservation, Wolterton Park, Erpingham, Norwich NR11 7LY United Kingdom*.

THE WILDLIFE GAME by Ron Thomson, former Provincial Game Warden in Zimbabwe, is now available from the Nyala Wildlife Publications Trust. The 360-page hardcover book contains 50 chapters, 48 color plates, and 144 black & white photographs. The book discusses current international wildlife controversies, and discusses how ecological concepts should guide wildlife conservation and management. Price of the book is \$70.00 U.S. (shipping and handling costs vary). To order call or fax the *Nyala Wildlife Publications Trust, P.O. Box 12, Mortimer 5870 SOUTH AFRICA*. Fax: (0486)787.

STATUS, BIOLOGY, AND MANAGEMENT OF FERRUGINOUS HAWKS: A REVIEW by Richard R. Olendorff is now available at no cost from the Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center. The 84-page

document, published by the Bureau of Land Management, is a comprehensive review of the literature on ferruginous hawks. The review provides research biologists and research managers with a current synopsis of information about population status, a review of life history information important to management, a discussion of the impacts of human activities on ferruginous hawks, and recommendations for management of the species. To request a copy, write: *Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center National Biological Survey, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705.*

THE EASTERN SCREECH OWL by Frederick R. Gehlbach will be available this year from Texas A & M University Press. The book summarizes Gehlbach's 25-year studies of the ecology of suburban and rural screech owls in Central Texas. It includes information on population ecology, genetics, and life history. To order, call (1-800-826-8911) or write *Texas A&M University Press, Drawer C, College Station, Texas 77843-4354.*

CITY PEREGRINES-a 10-year saga of New York City falcons by Saul Frank is now available from Hancock House Publishers. The book recounts the personal experiences of Saul Frank with peregrine falcons in the New York City area. The book can be purchased for \$29.95 from *Hancock House Publishers, 1431 Harrison Avenue, Box 959, Blaine, WA 98231-0959.*

THE HANDBOOK OF AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND AND ANTARCTIC BIRDS, VOLUME 2 (BIRDS OF PREY TO PRATINCOLES) is now available from *Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016.* The comprehensive synthesis of knowledge about birds from the area is edited by S. Marchant and P.J. Higgins. It includes 900 pages, 70 color and 150 b&w plates. Cost is \$295 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

● **LLOYD F. KIFF** has resigned his position as Director of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology and has re-located to West Virginia.

● **RICHARD D. WILLIAMS** has left Pacific Gas and Electric Co. to accept a position with Resource Management International, Inc. His new address is *Resource Management International, Inc., P.O. Box 15515, Sacramento, CA 95852-1516 (918-852-1300).*

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

BINOCULARS AND FIELD GUIDES NEEDED to assist in research and educational programs that have great need and very low funds. The Mexico Migration Project has received sufficient donations. The RRF Education Committee is now expanding the binocular/field guide donation program. Projects set to receive donations include research programs in Latin America and the former Soviet Union. Please consider donating them to this very worthwhile program. Also, the Education Committee is accepting nominations for worthy organizations to be beneficiaries of donations. Contact: *Nancy Read, Education Committee Chair, PO Box 714, Los Alamos, CA 93440-0714; (805-344-2428) or (805-734-8232 ext. 5-8399). Please note new address/phone.*

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

THE SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA is looking for window or road-killed raptors for a traveling exhibit. Presently we need a Flammulated and an Elf Owl; any kite species except a Snail Kite; and fish eagle except Bald Eagle; any Old World vulture species; any Harpy Eagle species; any Neotropical falcon species, or Northern Harrier. If you have any species available that are listed above, please contact *RICK JANNETT, The Science Museum of Minnesota, 30 East Tenth St., St. Paul, MN 55101 (612-221-9429; fax 612-221-4525).*

RAPTOR ELECTROCUTION AND WIRE STRIKE INFORMATION is needed. I am interested in obtaining records of raptor contact with electric distribution power lines. This information is needed to determine which specific types of overhead distribution line construction units place raptors at the greatest risk. Any records on either raptor electrocutions or wire strikes containing detailed information on the electrical units contacted would be very valuable. Contact *RICHARD HARNESS, Electrical Systems Consultants, 212 West Mulberry, Fort Collins, Co 80521 (303-224-9100; FAX 303-224-9137).*

MOUNTAIN ECOCONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE SOCIETY OF INDIA is producing a book entitled **BIRDS OF PREY**. All raptor researchers are requested to contribute their review/research contributions on any aspect of the subject, especially ecology, biology, conservation, and management. Please send contributions to *Dr. B.D. Sharma, Secretary, Mews (India), P.O. Box 78, Jammu (J & K) INDIA.*

INFORMATION ABOUT THE BLACK SHAHIN FALCON (*Falco peregrinus peregrinator*) is needed for the preparation of a PhD thesis on the species' status and biology. Please send any literature (published or unpublished), data, or information about specimens (living or dead) in museums or private collections. Names and addresses of persons who are working with this bird would also be useful. Any information received will be considered in the acknowledgments. *Hermann Dottlinger, Langer Rain 4, D-85301 Schweitenkirchen, GERMANY. Tel: (8444) 7588.*

NORTHERN HAWK OWL INFORMATION is needed for the *Birds of North America* review of this species. Surprisingly few data exist in the published form, other than scattered records dealing with the first sighting for an area, state or province. Any information on behavior, food, breeding, movements, measurements, concentrations of birds, etc., would be most valuable, and fully acknowledged in the final account. *Patricia and Dr. James R. Duncan, Box 201, Craven, KS SOG OWO, CANADA (306-731-2600); FAX. (306-787-2400).*

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS: PRINTED AND AUDIO/VISUAL. The RRF Education Committee is compiling a bibliography of printed educational materials on raptors. For audio-visual materials, we need the title, author/producer, production date, a brief summary (50 words or less), type of media, loan/rent/sale policies and prices, and contact name and address. For printed materials, send samples or a complete description (i.e. species, region, and topics). Contact *Nancy Read, Education Committee Chair, PO Box 714, Los Alamos, CA 93440-0714; (805-344-2428) or (805-734-8232 ext. 5-8399).*

ATTENTION VENDORS: *The Wingspan* is interested in providing a list of sources of equipment. If you know of a product that would be useful to raptor researchers (e.g., traps, markers, telemetry equipment, etc.) please send a description and an address to *Karen Steenhof, RRTAC-NBS, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705.*

GRANTS AND AWARDS

HAWK MOUNTAIN - ZEISS RAPTOR RESEARCH AWARD is open to graduate students researching aspects of raptor biology. Deadline for proposals is 15 Nov. Students may write *Hawk Mountain - Zeiss Research Award, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, RR 2, Box 191, Kempton, PA 19529.*

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RAPTOR RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (RRTAC) will establish the **Butch Olendorff Memorial Library** to house Butch's professional papers and as a center for bibliographic research on raptors when it moves into its permanent offices at Boise State University in 1995. Memorials to fund the library may be made to *Butch Olendorff Memorial Fund, c/o West One Bank, Skyway Branch, 2730 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705.*

THE U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT has established the **Butch Olendorff Lifetime Achievement Award for Conservation of Birds of Prey**, an occasional award to recognize individuals and organizations that make remarkable contributions or sacrifices to raptor conservation. The first 2 recipients were *Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus* and *Morley Nelson*, both of whom led the fight to establish the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area.

THE SANTA CRUZ PREDATORY BIRD RESEARCH GROUP has completed all captive breeding efforts. The offices, labs, and bird chambers have been sold and all future field work and lab analysis will be conducted out of new home at following address - *SCPBRG Long Marine Lab, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 (408-459-2466; fax 459-3115).*

The *Journal of Raptor Research* will contain a book review section beginning with issue three of 1994. Authors or publishers interested in having their publications reviewed by this forum should send a copy to *Jeffrey Marks, Book Review Editor, at the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812.* Books, monographs, or symposium proceedings on raptors or on techniques useful for the study or management of raptors are appropriate.

A club for young birdwatchers has been formed to encourage, expand, and reinforce youngsters' interest in and knowledge about birds. For a \$25 annual membership fee, children receive a postcard describing a different bird each week. For more information, contact *Early Birders, P.O. Box 111, Harmony, R.I. 02829-0111.*

RECENT THESES ON RAPTORS

- HISTORY, NESTING BIOLOGY, AND PREDATION ECOLOGY OF RAPTORS IN THE MISSOURI COTEAU OF NORTHWESTERN NORTH DAKOTA. *Robert K. Murphy*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Montana State University, Bozeman. 212pp.
- EFFECTS OF MONITORING EFFORT AND RECREATION PATTERNS ON TEMPORAL AND SPATIAL ACTIVITIES OF BREEDING BALD EAGLES. *J.M. Stangl*, M.S. Thesis, Montana State University, Bozeman.
- HABITAT USE AND HOME RANGE SIZE OF BREEDING NORTHERN GOSHAWKS IN THE SOUTHERN CASCADES. *K.K. Austin*, M.S. Thesis, Oregon State University, Corvallis.
- FACTORS AFFECTING FORAGING AND PRODUCTIVITY OF OSPREYS (*Pandion haliaetus*) AT CASCADE RESERVOIR, IDAHO. *J.M. Phelps III*, M.S. Thesis, Boise State University.

WINGSPAN CONTRIBUTIONS

The *Wingspan* editorial staff welcomes contributions from RRF members and others interested in raptor biology and management. Announcements of job openings, grants, meetings, and available publications as well as news of members and requests for information should be sent or faxed to Karen Steenhof, Editor, RRTAC, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705 (FAX 208-384-3493). The deadline for the next newsletter will be 5 February 1995. If you intend to submit more than a paragraph, please notify the editor by 15 January so that space can be reserved.

THE WINGSPAN
Raptor Research & Technical Assistance Center
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

Non-profit Organ.
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Boise, ID
Permit No. 35